

CLAIMS

1. A genus within the order Actinomycetales comprising an obligate requirement of sodium for growth and the presence of characteristic 16S rRNA sequences.
2. A method for producing biomolecules comprising growth of a strain of actinomycete with an obligate requirement of sodium for growth and characteristic 16S rRNA sequences, and collection of the actinomycete or growth media containing the biomolecule.
3. The method as in claim 2, wherein the biomolecule is a pharmaceutical agent.
4. The method as in claim 3, wherein the pharmaceutical agent is an antibiotic agent.
5. The method as in claim 3, wherein the pharmaceutical agent is an antifungal agent.
6. The method as in claim 3, wherein the pharmaceutical agent is an anti-cancer agent.
7. The method as in claim 2, wherein the biomolecule is a product of a gene from a heterologous organism.
8. A method for drug discovery comprising growth of a strain of actinomycete with an obligate requirement of seawater for growth and characteristic 16S rRNA sequences,

collection of the actinomycete or growth media, and

analysis of actinomycete or growth media for pharmacological activity.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the analysis comprises an assay for antibacterial activity.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein the analysis comprises an assay for anti-viral activity.

11. The method of claim 8, wherein the analysis comprises an assay for anti-cancer activity.

12. The method of claim 8, wherein the analysis comprises an assay for anti-fungal activity.

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